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# THE *Livestock and Wool* SITUATION

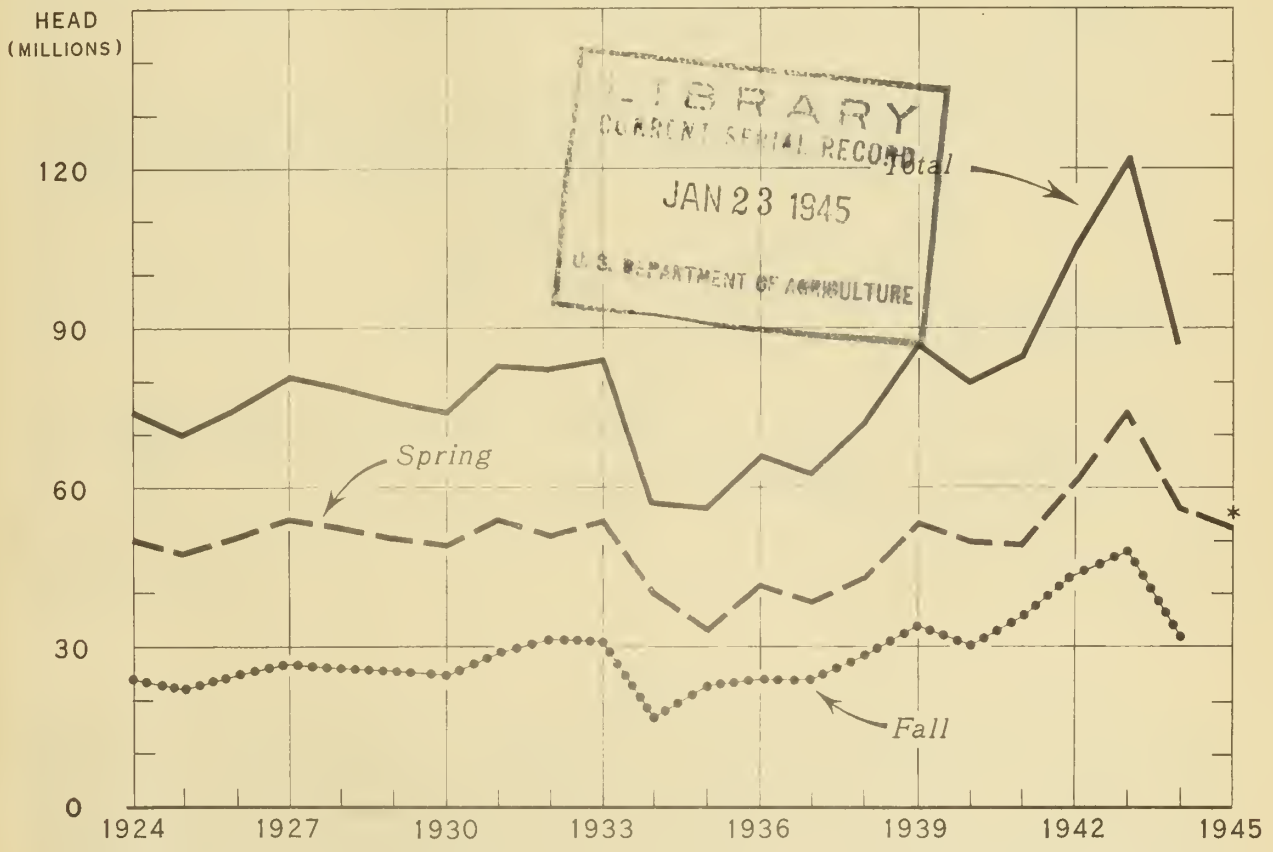
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LWS.- 32



DECEMBER 1944

## SPRING, FALL, AND TOTAL PIG CROPS, UNITED STATES, 1924-45



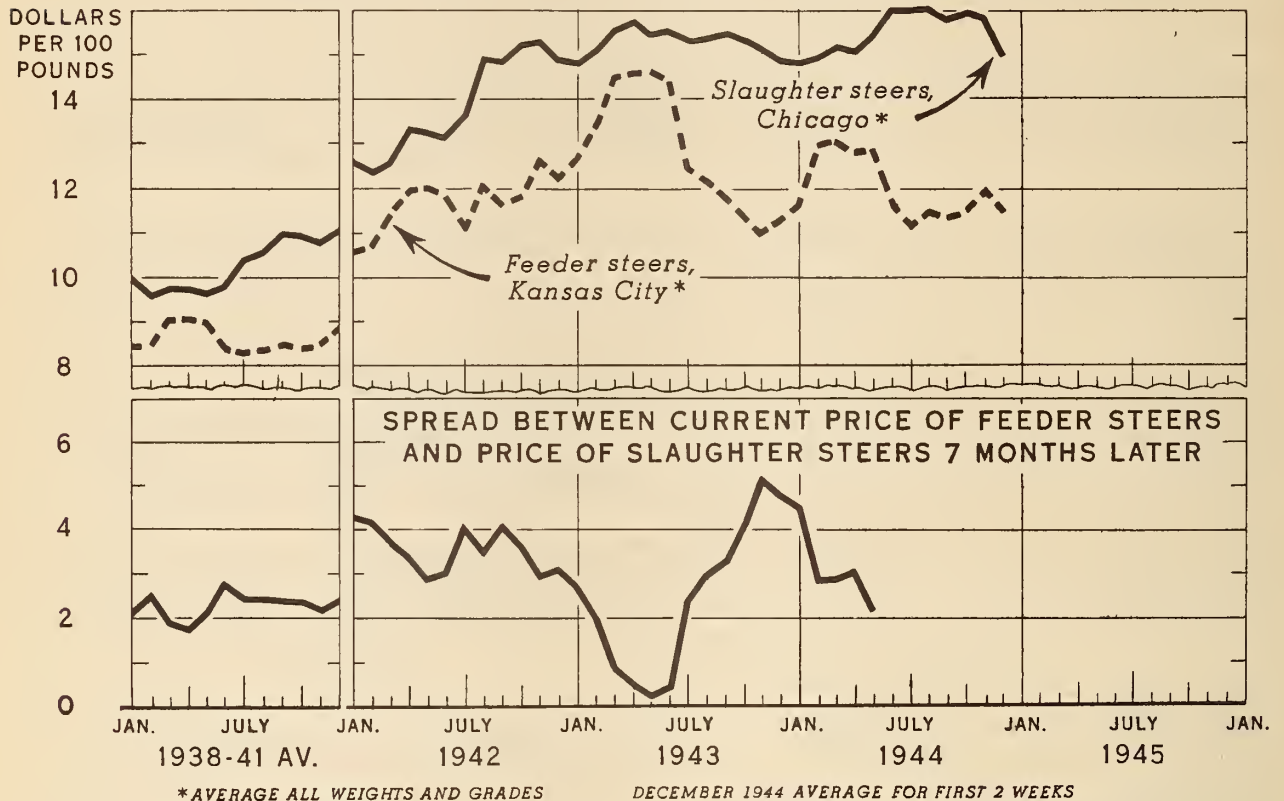
\*SPRING PIG CROP BASED ON SOWS INDICATED TO FARROW AND 1933-42 AVERAGE NUMBER OF PIGS SAVED PER LITTER

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG 24737 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Based on reported intentions for spring farrowing, the 1945 pig crop may be about 6 percent smaller than the 55 million head saved in the spring of 1944. Reductions in spring farrowings are indicated in all geographic regions except the Western Corn Belt States where the crop may be slightly larger than a year earlier. The total pig crop saved in 1944 is estimated at 87 million head, 29 percent smaller than the record large 1943 crop and the smallest since 1941. Hog slaughter in 1945 may be 20-25 percent smaller than in 1944, with most of the reduction occurring in the first 9 months of the year.

# PRICES FOR FEEDER STEERS AT KANSAS CITY AND SLAUGHTER STEERS AT CHICAGO, AND SPREAD WITH A 7-MONTH FEEDING PERIOD, 1938-41 AVERAGE, AND 1942-44



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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FIGURE 1.

Demand for the better grades of beef continues strong and prices for fed cattle probably will be well maintained in 1945. Requirements for steer and heifer beef by the armed forces in the first half of 1945 are larger than in the same period a year ago. Civilian supplies of the better grades of beef were insufficient to meet the demand at ceiling prices in 1944 and this condition is likely to continue in 1945. However, slaughter of all cattle, as well as fed cattle, may be moderately larger in the first 6 months of 1945 than in the same period of 1944.

# LIVESTOCK AND WOOL SITUATION

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## SUMMARY

Hog slaughter in 1944 was the largest on record, but the number of pigs raised, mostly for slaughter in 1945, was materially lower than a year earlier. The annual pig crop saved in 1944 was estimated at 87 million head, 29 percent smaller than the all-time record crop of 1943 which totaled 122 million. Nevertheless, the 1944 crop was the fourth largest on record. The fall pig crop was estimated at 31 million head, a reduction of 16 million head (34 percent) from the record large 1943 fall crop.

An analysis of farmers' reported intentions for spring farrowings indicates that the 1945 spring pig crop may be moderately smaller than the 55 million head saved in the spring of 1944. Indications on December 1 were that 8-1/2 million sows would farrow. With this number of sows and an average number of pigs saved per litter, the spring crop would total about 52 million, 6 percent smaller than the spring crop of 1944.

Reductions in the pig crops in 1944 will result in a 1945 hog slaughter 20 to 25 percent smaller than in 1944. Most of this reduction will occur in the first 9 months of the year. Hog slaughter in the last quarter of 1945 may be slightly smaller than in the last quarter of 1944.



\_\_\_ In early December, ceiling prices on butcher hogs weighing over 270 pounds were increased 75 cents per 100 pounds at all markets and market areas. The ceiling price for all butcher hogs at Chicago is \$14.75 and sows, stags, and boars, regardless of weight, have a 75-cent lower ceiling. This action will encourage the feeding of hogs to heavier weights as hog prices may rise to the ceiling when seasonally large winter marketings have passed.

The number of cattle fed this winter is indicated to be somewhat larger than a year earlier. The number fed in the Corn Belt may be moderately larger and the total fed in all other States may be at least as large. A moderate increase in cattle slaughter during the first 6 months of 1945 over the same period of 1944 is indicated. Calf slaughter may also be larger with a record number of milk cows, if dairymen continue to market a large percentage of calves for veal. Numbers of beef cows and heifers probably decreased during 1944 and numbers of all steers may have increased.

Sheep and lamb slaughter may be moderately lower during the first half of 1945 than a year earlier. The number of lambs fed this winter is indicated to be somewhat lower than a year earlier and may be the smallest in 7 years. The number fed in the Corn Belt may be about the same as a year earlier. Feeding will be increased in Oklahoma and Texas. Decreased feeding is indicated in the Western States and the number fed in Colorado, the main feeding State, may be the lowest in 17 years.

The CCC will purchase the 1945 domestic production of wool at the 1944 purchase price, which is the current ceiling price less specific marketing costs. The 1945 program, which was announced on December 21 is substantially the same as the 1944 program. The average price received by growers in the first 8 months of the 1944 program (April-November) was 41 cents -- approximately the same as in the corresponding period of 1943.

Recent developments in the military situation have materially increased Army requirements for wool clothing and a large part of the mill output of woolen and worsted fabrics will be restricted to military orders during the first half of 1945. The use of domestic wool is likely to increase during the next several months with the shift from civilian to military production, as preference is given to domestic wool in awarding Army contracts. Mills have used foreign wool almost exclusively in civilian fabrics because of the lower prices of foreign wool. Only 261 million pounds (grease basis) of domestic wool were used by United States mills during the first 10 months of 1944 compared with 573 million pounds of foreign wool.

Stocks of apparel wool in the United States, excepting wool stored in this country for the British Government, totaled about 950 million pounds (grease basis) on October 1, 1944. The stocks this year were about equal to those of October 1, 1943, but were more than twice as large as average 1935-39 October 1 stocks of around 400 million pounds. Mill consumption at present, however, is at an annual rate of close to 1 billion pounds (grease basis) compared with 1935-39 average consumption of about 600 million pounds.

----- December 22, 1944

#### OUTLOOK

#### 1944 Fall Pig Crop One-Third Smaller Than in 1943

The 1944 fall pig crop (June 1-December 1) was sharply reduced from the record large crop of the fall of 1943 in all of the Corn Belt States as well as in all other States. The total number saved is estimated at 31 million head, 34 percent smaller than the 48 million saved in the fall of 1943 and the smallest fall crop since 1940. In the West North Central States and in the East North Central States the 1944 crop was lower than in 1943 by 35 and 28 percent, respectively. In the other main geographic regions the percentage reductions were: South Central States, 38; South Atlantic, 34; North Atlantic, 39; and Western, 50.

The number of sows farrowing in the fall of 1944 is estimated at 4.9 million head compared with 7.6 million in 1943, and 4.5 million, the average for 1932-41.

The average number of pigs saved per litter in the fall of 1944 was 6.34 compared with 6.29 a year earlier and 6.16, the average for 1932-41.

Table 1.- Fall pig crop, by regions, average 1932-41, and 1942-44

Region	Average 1932-41	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
North Central States:					
East .....	8,795	13,132	14,489	10,443	72
West .....	9,071	15,362	15,641	10,158	65
Total .....	17,866	28,494	30,130	20,601	68
Other regions:					
North Atlantic .....	764	1,010	1,397	853	61
South Atlantic .....	2,709	3,777	4,622	3,056	66
South Central .....	5,177	8,054	8,942	5,529	62
Western .....	1,376	2,322	2,581	1,286	50
Total .....	10,026	15,163	17,542	10,724	61
United States .....	27,892	43,657	47,672	31,325	66

The total pig crop in 1944 (spring and fall crops combined) amounted to 87 million head, 29 percent smaller than the combined spring and fall crops of 122 million in 1943. The spring crop of 1944 totaled 55 million head, 25 percent less than the record spring crop of 1943. The sharp cut in the 1944 pig crops ended the upturn in hog production which began in the fall of 1941. Livestock production increased at such a rapid rate from 1938 to 1943 that the livestock population had overrun feed production, and feed-grain reserves that had been accumulating during 1937-41 had been reduced to below normal by the spring of 1944. Corn became hard to obtain on the market early in 1944. The hog-corn price ratio became the most unfavorable for more than 3 years in the winter of 1943-44 when prices of hogs fell to the support level and corn prices remained at the ceilings. Markets were glutted with record numbers of hogs in the winter and spring of 1943-44. Ceilings were put on prices of live hogs in the fall of 1943 and lower support prices were announced in September 1943 and became effective October 1, 1944. These factors all contributed to the sharp reduction in the pig crops of 1944.



1945 Spring Pig Crop Indicated ModeratelySmaller than in 1944

About 8.5 million sows are indicated to farrow in the spring of 1945 on the basis of an analysis of farmers' breeding intentions reported about December 1. If these intentions are borne out and the number of pigs saved per litter is equal to the average for the years 1933-42, the 1945 spring pig crop would total about 52 million head, 6 percent smaller than the spring crop of 1944 and about 30 percent smaller than the record large spring crop of 1943. Farmers intent to decrease farrowings in all geographic regions except the Western Corn Belt, where a small increase is indicated. Much larger feed-grain supplies per animal unit than a year ago, in the Western Corn Belt, are largely responsible for the intended increase in that region.

Table 2.- Sows farrowed during the spring season, by regions, average 1932-40, and 1942-45

Region	Average 1932-41	1942	1943	1944	1945 1/	1945 as a percentage of 1944
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
North Central States:						
East .....	1,914	2,467	2,947	2,435	2,228	92
West .....	3,601	4,679	6,003	4,325	4,408	102
Total .....	5,515	7,146	8,950	6,760	6,636	98
Other regions:						
North Atlantic .....	127	144	197	176	131	74
South Atlantic .....	534	634	786	722	532	74
South Central .....	1,023	1,313	1,680	1,201	975	81
Western .....	287	413	523	328	248	76
Total .....	1,971	2,504	3,186	2,427	1,886	78
United States .....	7,486	9,650	12,136	9,187	8,522	93

1/ Indicated on the basis of farmers' intentions December 1, 1944.

Reduced Hog Slaughter in 1945

Hog slaughter in 1945 may be 20 to 25 percent smaller than slaughter in 1944, which apparently totaled about 97 million head. Most of the reduction will be in slaughter during the first 9 months of the year, reflecting the reduced spring and fall pig crops saved in 1944. Hog slaughter in the last quarter of the year may be about the same as or slightly smaller than in the last quarter of 1944. The number of hogs on farms at the end of 1944 was materially smaller than the number a year earlier.

Pork supplies for the year 1945 probably will not be reduced as much as the cut in hog slaughter would indicate. Slaughter weights may average higher than in 1944, when weights were lower than in the previous 2 years but

were well above average. Ceiling prices on hogs weighing 240-270 pounds, which as a feed conserving measure, were reduced 75 cents per 100 pounds under those for lighterweight hogs, effective May 15, were increased on October 30, to their previous level. On December 13, ceilings on barrows and gilts weighing over 270 pounds were increased to the \$14.75 level at Chicago, and the ceilings at other markets were increased correspondingly. After the peak of hog marketings has passed this winter, hog prices probably will be at the ceilings and with short supplies of pork anticipated, there probably will be little price differentiation among hogs weighing 200-300 pounds. Also more abundant supplies of feed and more favorable hog-feed price relationships during the winter and spring will be reflected in heavier market weights than a year earlier.

The hog-corn price ratio for the United States, farm basis, on November 15 was the highest since the late fall of 1943. However, the ratio in mid-November, at 12.7, was only moderately above the 20-year (1923-42) average of 11.8.

Beef Cow and Heifer Numbers Decrease During  
1944; Numbers of Steers Increase

Record large marketings of both cattle and calves in 1944 probably will result in a decrease in cattle numbers of 1 to 2 million head for the year, thus reversing the upward trend in cattle numbers which began in 1938. The January 1, 1944, number of all cattle was estimated at 82 million head, the largest on record and 8 million head larger than the number on hand at the peak of the previous numbers cycle on January 1, 1934. Records of slaughter indicate that numbers of milk cows and heifers, and numbers of steers increased during 1944. However, the number of beef cows and heifers and the number of all calves on hand at the beginning of 1945 probably will be smaller than on January 1, 1944.

Large marketings from the Western States and from the North Central States indicate that most of the reduction in numbers this year has occurred in these areas. Numbers on January 1, 1945, in other geographic regions may be little different from those of a year earlier.

Table 3.- Number of milk cows and heifers, beef cows and heifers, steers, and calves on farms, by regions  
January 1, 1940-44

Region	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 increase from	
						1940	1943
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Pct.	Pct.
Milk cows and heifers 1/							
North Atlantic .....	3,908	3,928	3,943	3,897	3,990	2	2
North Central .....	15,241	15,684	16,291	16,763	17,156	13	2
South Atlantic .....	2,290	2,335	2,408	2,476	2,566	12	4
South Central .....	6,222	6,313	6,589	6,859	7,003	13	2
Western .....	2,786	2,878	3,013	3,109	3,114	12	2/0
United States .....	30,447	31,138	32,244	33,104	33,829	11	2

-- Continued



Table 3.- Number of milk cows and heifers, beef cows and heifers, steers, and calves on farms, by regions, January 1, 1940-44 --- Continued

Region	1944 increase from						
	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1940	1943
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Pct.	Pct.
Other cows and heifers 1/:							
North Atlantic .....	48	49	49	49	56	17	14
North Central .....	4,121	4,649	5,070	5,632	6,194	50	10
South Atlantic .....	851	935	1,003	1,128	1,228	44	9
South Central .....	4,593	4,746	5,018	5,270	5,455	19	4
Western .....	4,366	4,618	4,952	5,227	5,535	27	6
United States .....	13,979	14,997	16,092	17,306	18,468	32	7
Steers 1/:							
North Atlantic .....	110	113	109	118	118	7	0
North Central .....	2,811	3,237	3,484	3,860	4,163	48	8
South Atlantic .....	385	390	375	391	420	9	7
South Central .....	997	1,205	1,282	1,360	1,392	40	2
Western .....	973	994	1,105	1,181	1,367	40	16
United States .....	5,276	5,939	6,355	6,910	7,466	41	8
All calves:							
North Atlantic .....	768	778	787	811	858	12	6
North Central .....	8,382	8,944	9,442	10,029	10,147	21	1
South Atlantic .....	933	958	998	1,067	1,137	22	7
South Central .....	4,107	4,214	4,493	4,855	4,904	19	1
Western .....	2,683	2,820	3,031	3,238	3,495	30	8
United States .....	16,873	17,714	18,751	20,000	20,541	22	3

1/ One year old and over.

2/ Less than one-half percent.

The number of steers on hand January 1, 1944, estimated at 7.5 million head, was the largest for that date since 1924. While slaughter of steers was large through January-May 1944, exceeded only in the same months of 1942, in the remaining months of 1944 steer slaughter was relatively small. Steer slaughter constituted 45 percent of total federally inspected cattle slaughter for the first 10 months of 1944 compared with 51 percent in the same period of 1943. Steer slaughter was the smallest percentage of total slaughter since 1937. While slaughter of steers in 1944 was relatively small, total slaughter was greater than in 1943.

Table 4.- Number of steers slaughtered under Federal inspection as a percentage of total cattle slaughtered under Federal inspection, by months, 1937-44

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year 1/
1937	42.1	45.9	46.4	50.6	47.7	44.8	39.2	33.4	33.7	30.4	33.1	38.6	40.1
1938	43.6	49.3	50.2	52.8	52.4	48.3	45.7	44.3	43.2	41.2	42.3	43.2	46.2
1939	44.5	48.3	47.9	50.4	49.4	52.3	50.6	52.8	48.6	43.8	45.2	49.8	48.6
1940	51.5	53.6	54.0	56.9	56.3	54.6	51.2	50.6	47.5	43.5	39.8	43.2	49.9
1941	46.3	48.7	50.7	54.2	54.6	54.8	53.7	50.7	49.4	45.8	44.2	47.0	49.9
1942	49.5	51.2	54.6	57.3	58.8	57.3	53.7	48.8	44.4	38.5	34.6	41.4	48.7
1943	49.7	52.5	54.5	57.7	59.2	56.4	58.3	50.8	44.9	39.7	37.0	42.9	48.9
1944	48.0	51.5	56.5	58.4	56.6	47.3	39.5	36.0	36.0	31.6			

Compiled from reports of the War Food Administration.

1/ Yearly percentages obtained by weighting monthly percentages by number of animals slaughtered under Federal inspection.

### Increased Number of Cattle to be Fed This Winter

The number of cattle fed during this winter's feeding season probably will be somewhat larger than the number fed last year. The total to be fed in the Corn Belt may be moderately larger than a year ago. The total number to be fed in other States is indicated to be at least as large as the number fed a year earlier. Much of the increase will be due to the finishing of much larger numbers of cattle on winter wheat pastures and on sorghum feeds in the plains area from Kansas to Texas.

Sharp reductions in the number of cattle to be fed this winter are indicated in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Missouri. Little change is indicated in Wisconsin and South Dakota. But in the principal feeding States, Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska, larger numbers will be fed than a year earlier and large feeding on wheat pastures in Kansas is expected to result in increased feeding for the State. Shipments of feeder and stocker cattle from July through November into the 8 Corn Belt States for which complete records are available were 4 percent larger than a year earlier. For this period shipments from public markets into Missouri, South Dakota, and Kansas, were below last year, but direct shipments to the Kansas wheat field area were much larger than a year earlier. Probably a larger number of locally-grown cattle are being fed this winter than usual in the Corn Belt.

Reports from Texas indicate that there are near-record numbers of cattle on wheat pastures in the plains area. Abundant feed grain supplies and excellent wheat pastures in Oklahoma are expected to result in increased feeding in that State.

Probably fewer cattle will be fed in the 11 Western States this winter than last. Indications early in December were that, compared with a year ago, more would be fed in Montana, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada but that fewer would be fed in Colorado, Wyoming, Washington, Oregon, and California. The number to be fed in New Mexico is indicated to be little changed.

### Large Cattle and Calf Slaughter in 1945

A moderate increase in the number of cattle to be fed this winter from last, and large marketings of veal calves from the record number of milk cows now on farms, point to a slaughter of cattle and calves during the first half of the year 1945 moderately larger than the large slaughter in the first half of 1944. However, total calf slaughter for the year may be reduced from that of 1944, which established a new record. Slaughter of cows and heifers will probably continue large as producers tend to decrease breeding stock numbers throughout the year.

A larger proportion than usual of the cattle fed last winter were short fed and slaughter of cattle was comparatively small in the late spring and early summer. A somewhat similar situation is likely to develop during 1945 as most of the factors contributing to a short feeding period remain. Cattle feeders have preferred heavier, better-fleshed feeding cattle and



many of the calves that normally would have gone to feed lots last fall were slaughtered. Feeding costs remain high, with feed prices at a comparatively high level and other costs are probably higher than a year earlier.

#### Lamb Feeding to be Reduced This Winter

Available data in early December indicate that lamb feeding will be somewhat smaller this winter than a year ago and will probably be the smallest since 1937. The number of lambs fed in the Corn Belt may be about the same as a year earlier. Sharply increased finishing in Kansas and a moderate increase in Wisconsin will about offset decreased feeding in other Corn Belt States. In the Western States reports indicate that the total number of lambs fed will be considerably smaller than last year. But this reduction will be partially offset by a substantial increase in the number of lambs finished on wheat pastures and other feeds in the plains area of Texas, and some increase in Oklahoma.

The number of lambs fed probably will be smaller than last year in all of the Western States except Utah, Arizona, and Oregon. In Colorado the number to be fed is indicated to be about 5 percent smaller than last year and may be the smallest since 1927.

Western sheep growers apparently have reduced the number of ewe lambs being saved for herd replacements. It appears that a larger proportion of the available ewe lambs went to slaughter or to feed in the fall of 1944 than in the fall of 1943. The lamb crop in the Western Sheep States was about 1 million head smaller this year than last. Slaughter of 1944 lambs to December 1 was only slightly below the slaughter of 1943 lambs to the same date in 1943. The number of lambs to be fed this season also is indicated to be only moderately smaller than a year earlier.

The estimated number of sheep and lambs on feed on January 1, 1944, was 5.9 million head, a decrease of over 1 million head from the record number on feed on January 1, 1943. It is estimated that there were 5.6 million sheep and lambs on feed on January 1, 1937. The number fed during the winters of 1938, 1939, and 1940 were only moderately larger. On January 1, 1941, there were about 6.5 million head on feed, and on January 1, 1942, there were an estimated 6.9 million.

#### Sheep and Lamb Slaughter in 1945 to be Smaller than in 1944

Moderately smaller feeding of lambs this winter will be reflected in a smaller slaughter of lambs in the first 4 months of 1945, when marketings of fed lambs make up the bulk of total slaughter. Slaughter of lambs after the first 4 months of 1945 will depend in a large part upon the size of the 1945 lamb crop, but with an average number of lambs saved per 100 ewes the crop probably will be smaller than in 1944. Slaughter of ewes during 1945 probably will be somewhat smaller than in 1944, reflecting decreased numbers of sheep and the close culling of breeding sheep that has occurred in the last 3 years.

Supplies of lamb and mutton for civilians are indicated to be materially smaller for the first half of 1945 than a year earlier and this will be a strong supporting factor for prices of lamb as well as for prices of mature sheep marketed for slaughter.

#### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

##### November Cattle and Calf Slaughter

Decreased Seasonally; Fed  
Cattle Prices Drop Sharply

November federally inspected cattle slaughter of 1,335,737 head was 114,835 smaller than in October. In comparable plants it was 8 percent smaller than in October and 2 percent smaller than in November a year earlier. The total for 11 months this year was 14 percent above last year.

Calf slaughter in federally inspected plants in November was 45,680 head smaller than in October. Slaughter of 873,919 head in November was the highest in any November. It was only 5 percent below October, which was the largest on record for all months, and was 33 percent larger than in November 1943, in comparable plants. The total for January-November was 48 percent above last year, excluding slaughter in war-duration establishments.

Prices for fed cattle slumped sharply during late November and early December as market receipts were increased. The average price for all Corn Belt steers at Chicago dropped from \$15.90 per 100 pounds in mid-November to \$15.06 in mid-December, when the price was slightly lower than a year earlier.

The demand for feeder cattle continued strong during November and early December. The average price paid for stocker and feeder cattle at Kansas City for the week ended December 15 was \$11.63 compared with \$12.15 a month earlier and \$11.54 a year earlier. November was the only month in 1944 when the average price of stocker and feeder steers was materially higher than that of the corresponding month in 1943.

##### Sheep and Lamb Slaughter Seasonally

Smaller in October; Feeding Lamb  
Prices at Seasons' High

Slaughter of sheep and lambs under Federal inspection in November totaled 2,012,588 head compared with 2,238,346 in October. This was a decrease of 10 percent from October and was 16 percent smaller than in November a year earlier (comparable plants).

Prices for slaughter lambs were relatively unchanged in mid-December from a month earlier. The average price for Good and Choice lambs at Chicago was \$14.70 per 100 pounds compared with \$14.54 a month earlier, and \$14.56 a year earlier.

Feeder prices advanced to the highest level of the season in November at the Denver market. Prices in mid-December at Omaha were about the same as a month earlier. Demand for feeding lambs was strong and numbers of lambs suitable for feeding were materially smaller than during this time a year ago.



Hog Slaughter in November 25 percentLower than in 1943; PricesDecline Seasonally

Hog slaughter, totaling 5,258,194 head in federally inspected plants in November, was about 25 percent higher than in October but was the same percentage lower than in November a year ago, if an allowance is made for the larger number of plants now under inspection.

Hog prices in mid-December were slightly lower than in mid-November, reflecting a seasonal increase in marketings. But prices for most grades and weights of butcher hogs in mid-December at Chicago were around 50 cents per 100 pounds higher than a year earlier. Prices for sows were \$1.00 to \$1.50 higher. Hogs of all weights sold within a very narrow price range. This reflects the extremely strong demand for pork products which makes it possible for packers to realize full ceilings on most pork cuts and other edible products. Cuts from high quality hogs bring little if any more than cuts from less desirable hogs. Also packers have a ready outlet for cuts from heavy hogs and fat cuts to fill Government orders which makes such hogs relatively more valuable than in times when these products were not so readily salable. Demand for pork continues strong. There was a decrease in cold storage stocks of frozen pork during November contrary to the usual seasonal trend. WEA sharply stepped up its purchases of pork in November over the October rate.

Farmers received moderately lower prices for their 1943 crop hogs, largely marketed from October 1, 1943, through September 30, 1944, than for 1942 crop hogs. Despite greatly increased slaughter during the marketing year 1943-44, prices paid by packers averaged about \$1.00 per 100 pounds lower than in the previous marketing year, but were more than twice as high as the average for 1930-40. The number of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection for the marketing year 1943-44 was about 20 percent larger than in 1942-43 and was 75 percent larger than the average for 1930-40, when an adjustment is made for an increase in the number of slaughtering plants. The average weight of hogs slaughtered in the hog marketing year 1943-44 was 245 pounds, 11 pounds less than the extremely heavy weights of 1942-43, but was about 15 pounds heavier than the average for 1930-40.

Table 5.- Hog slaughter under Federal inspection, marketing years,  
average 1930-40, annual 1940-44

Marketing : year : Oct.-Sept. :	Slaughter : Thousands	Total live : weight : Million pounds	Average : live weight : Pounds	Average cost : to packers : per 100 pounds : Dollars	Total dressed : weight less : condemned : Million pounds
Average :					
1930-40 :	39,902*	9,163	230	6.46	6,860
1940-41 :	48,000	11,402	238	8.08	8,533
1941-42 :	52,363	12,717	243	12.58	9,566
1942-43 :	59,981	15,364	256	14.25	11,566
1943-44 :	73,342	17,946	245	13.34	13,510

Data from War Food Administration.

Increased Ceiling Prices for  
Heavy Weight Butcher hogs

Effective December 13, the ceiling price for butcher hogs, (barrows and gilts) weighing over 270 pounds, was increased 75 cents per 100 pounds at all markets and buying stations. Previously the ceiling price for all hogs weighing over 270 pounds was \$14.00 per 100 pounds, Chicago basis, while the ceiling on lighter weight hogs was \$14.75. Now the ceiling price on sows, stags, and boars, of all weights is \$14.00, Chicago basis and on all weights of butcher hogs it is \$14.75. These revisions are contained in Amendment 11 to MPR 469 issued by the Office of Price Administration.

In view of the improved feed situation which now exists and the sharp cut in pork output indicated for 1945 compared with 1944, the feeding of hogs to heavier weights now seems desirable. The recent upward revision in the ceiling price of heavy butcher hogs will aid in attaining this objective.

The record corn crop of 1944 is indicated to be large enough to fill all requirements during the feeding year 1944-45 and still leave a sizeable carryover.

WFA Sets Support Prices for Hogs  
at All Markets

Specific support prices for hogs at all terminal markets other than Chicago, at interior markets, and at buying stations, were set by WFA in Amendment 18 to War Food Order 75, effective November 26. This amendment specifies that the floor on Good and Choice butcher hogs (barrows and gilts) weighing 200 to 270 pounds will be \$2.25 per 100 pounds below the maximum price for hogs weighing up to and including 270 pounds, as established by the Office of Price Administration on November 15, 1944. The support price for 200 to 270-pound hogs has previously been announced for the Chicago market at \$12.50, \$2.25 per 100 pounds below the maximum price for such hogs at that market.

Pork Set-Aside Increased Slightly

To obtain additional quantities of pork for war agencies, the pork set-aside order was amended, effective December 3, 1944, so that federally inspected slaughterers must now reserve for Government procurement specific cuts and pork sides equal to 28-1/2 percent of the live weight of hogs slaughtered instead of the former set-aside of 26 percent. Now 45 to 50 percent of the federally inspected pork output will be reserved for Government purchase. These revisions were issued as Amendment 4 to WFO 75.3.

The increases for specific cuts are: Frozen pork sides from 4 to 4.5 percent; loins from 3 to 3.5 percent; hams from 4.5 to 5 percent, and the quantity to be prepared as Army overseas hams from 20 to 30 percent, and fat cuts from 1.5 to 2.5 percent.

Beef Set-Aside Extended

WFA has revised its set-aside order on beef (WFO 75.2) to include the operations of all slaughtering plants where more than 51 cattle which



produce "Army-style" cattle are slaughtered weekly. These revisions to the set-aside order were issued as Amendment 16 and became effective December 4. Heretofore, any number of persons were allowed to have cattle slaughtered at a plant and no set-aside was required as long as no more than 51 head of cattle producing beef meeting Army procurement specifications were slaughtered for any one individual. Thus many slaughterers were killing more than 51 "Army-style" cattle a week, for different individuals on a custom basis, and no set-aside was required on this slaughter if 51 or fewer "Army-style" cattle were slaughtered for each individual. Moreover, a number of slaughterers were using the same plant on a lease basis, and as long as no individual exceeded 51 head, no set-aside was required. Now, such slaughtering plants will be required to set aside the designated percentages of beef on the basis of all slaughter. As all meat purchased by the war agencies is required to be produced under Federal inspection, all such new slaughterers coming under the set-aside order must have Federal inspection on the beef required to be set aside.

Amendment 17, effective December 3, changed the definition of "Army-style" beef to include a wider range of weights for both steer and heifer carcasses. Dressed steer carcasses of Choice, Good, and Commercial grades weighing from 350 to 1,100 pounds, instead of 400 to 1,100 pounds, and heifer carcasses of the same grades weighing from 300 to 650 pounds, instead of 350 to 650 pounds, and Utility grade of heifer carcasses weighing 300 to 550 instead of 350 to 550 pounds, are now required to be set aside.

The set-aside percentages are unchanged from those formerly in effect. Federally inspected slaughterers must reserve, for purchase by war agencies, 60 percent of their output of Choice and Good, 60 percent of Commercial, and 60 percent of Utility beef, in the form of frozen boneless Army-style beef, and 80 percent of their Canner and Cutter beef output. However, WFA has announced that about January 1 the set-aside order will be changed so that the 60 percent of the Utility beef can be made available for canning, as the supply of Canner and Cutter beef will be seasonally much less than during the fall months. Additional canned meat output is urgently needed by war agencies, especially the Army. It is contemplated that after the first of the year supplies of fed cattle will be large enough to supply all requirements of Government agencies for boneless beef from the production of Choice, Good, and Commercial carcasses without increasing the percentages of these grades that are now being set aside.

#### Commercial Meat Stocks Lowest Since 1942

Total meat stocks, including edible offals, in commercial cold storage warehouses and meat packing plants on December 1 totaled 496 million pounds, the lowest for any month except November 1944, since late 1942. Stocks of meat were accumulated in storage last winter and spring until the total was the highest in 24 years. Withdrawals from this supply during the balance of the year were larger than for any year on record. Beef stocks decreased contra-seasonally during September, October, and November. Stocks of pork increased only slightly in November after reaching a seasonal low on November 1.

Table 6.- Cold-storage holdings of meats in public warehouses and packing plants, 1940-44 1/

Month	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
January 1	645,969	870,042	716,597	738,096	911,574
February 1	775,268	951,531	887,715	801,400	1,065,708
March 1	836,503	983,685	891,161	833,303	1,256,108
April 1	830,731	963,093	864,075	780,806	1,251,470
May 1	764,769	966,081	814,652	714,612	1,208,001
June 1	726,415	955,553	774,541	713,699	1,159,700
July 1	727,116	850,618	721,119	703,274	1,110,482
August 1	671,285	761,284	631,072	757,528	970,243
September 1	523,390	627,757	521,272	724,769	728,944
October 1	426,485	512,402	456,578	599,179	578,080
November 1	408,836	471,397	463,788	603,343	488,586
December 1	550,407	544,014	522,064	715,106	496,067

Compiled from reports of the War Food Administration.

1/ Includes frozen, cured and smoked beef and pork, frozen lamb and veal, trimmings and edible offal. Government holdings are included and consist of reported stocks held by WFA, the armed services, and other Government agencies. In addition to stocks reported above, the armed services hold some stocks in space owned and operated by them on which figures are not available for publication.

#### THE WOOL SITUATION

##### Government Purchase of Domestic Wool to Continue in 1945

The Commodity Credit Corporation will purchase the 1945 domestic production of wool under essentially the same conditions as in 1944, according to an announcement issued December 21 by the War Food Administration. The 1945 program, which will become effective January 1, is essentially a continuation of the marketing plan which has been in effect for domestic wool since April 25, 1943.

As in the past, established wool dealers and cooperative associations will purchase, store, handle, and sell domestic wool for the account of the War Food Administration. Purchases will be made at substantially the same level as under previous programs, that is, at prices in line with ceiling value based on grade, quality, and location, less specific allowances to cover transportation and marketing costs, and a service fee of 1-1/8 cents per grease pound. Sales will be made to manufacturers at ceiling values.

In order to avoid a decline in lamb prices during the late months of 1945, the new program will apply to domestic wool offered to the War Food Administration and appraised by June 30, 1946.



The average price received by growers in the first 8 months of the 1944 program (April-November) was 41 cents -- approximately the same as in the corresponding period of 1943.

Army Requirements to Take a Much Larger Part  
of Wool Fabric Output in First Half of  
1945 Than in 1944

Recent developments in the military situation have considerably altered the wool textile outlook for the first half of 1945. Prospects of a winter of combat on the Western front with needs for wool clothing under combat conditions exceeding all expectations based on earlier experience, have made it necessary to increase materially the Army procurement programs. Because of the urgency of military requirements, action will be taken through WPB directives, and voluntary cooperation by the industry, to channel a large part of output to the military during the first half of 1945. As the industry is already handicapped by the shortage of trained workers, particularly in the preparatory stages of sorting, combing, and spinning, the new Army requirements will make it necessary to postpone or cancel a large part of the civilian production scheduled for spring delivery.

The program recommended on December 12, by the Woolen and Worsted Advisory Committee to the WPB was as follows:

(1) That delivery and use of wool tops and worsted yarns be restricted to rated orders during the next 5 months. Rated orders include military and other Government orders, and essential civilian requirements which have been assigned priority rating by the WPB.

(2) That individual mill quotas for rated orders be assigned to woolen mills during the same period. Because of the varying capacity of woolen mills to produce the required items, a direct "freeze" was not considered feasible for this section of the industry.

(3) That the worsted sections of the industry be placed on the critical manpower list to assist mills in obtaining additional workers.

The restrictions recommended for the worsted section were adopted on December 14 by amendment of Direction 3 to General Conservation Order M-73. The amendment prohibits all production of wool top except to fill rated orders during the period December 31, 1944, to May 12, 1945, and prohibits the putting into process of any wool top except to produce yarn to fill rated orders between January 14, and June 2, 1945. This order covers the use of about half of the raw wool used in the industry since about half of the new wool used by mills in the first 9 months of 1944 went into the production of wool tops and was processed on the worsted system.

No action had been taken as of December 20, to restrict production or deliveries of the woolen system, but rated orders are given priority over unrated orders.

Civilian Supplies Expected to be  
Adequate Under Present Conditions

With production of a large part of the industry restricted to rated orders in the first half of 1945, production of civilian fabrics will be greatly reduced during this period. Production of civilian fabrics has been large during 1944 however, and it seems unlikely that a serious shortage of civilian needs would develop in the near future. Production of woolen and worsted woven fabrics in the first 9 months of 1944 was about 40 percent larger than in the corresponding period of 1939 and the greater part of this record production was for civilian use. Mills reporting to the National Association of Wool Manufacturers indicate that about three-fourths of their production of woven apparel fabrics during that period was for civilian apparel. Production of women's-and children's-wear fabrics in 1944 probably will exceed the 1939 production by more than 50 percent. (See table 7.)

Table 7.- Wool goods: Production of woolen and worsted woven fabrics by use, United States, quarterly average 1939, and 1942-44

Item	Quarterly average			1944				
				Jan.-	Apr.-	July - September		
	1939	1942	1943	Mar.	June	Woolen	Worsted	Total
	1/					2/	3/	
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
	lin.	lin.	lin.	lin.	lin.	lin.	lin.	lin.
	yd.	yd.	yd.	yd.	yd.	yd.	yd.	yd.
Apparel fabrics								
Men's wear.....	44.7	69.3	64.2	60.9	56.7	19.5	30.5	50.0
Women's and Children's wear .....	26.8	26.9	33.0	46.3	43.9	30.1	9.7	39.8
General use 4/ .....	6.4	15.8	11.0	10.8	11.4	7.6	3.3	10.9
All other apparel .....	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.3	1.3	0.3	0.9	1.2
Total apparel fabrics:	80.3	114.2	110.1	119.3	113.3	57.5	44.4	101.9
Blankets .....	4.9	16.0	22.3	19.0	20.4	5/	5/	19.4
Other non apparel (except: woven felts) .....	7.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.9	5/	5/	2.5
Total woven fabrics (except woven felts : 6/)	93.0	131.9	134.1	139.7	135.6	5/	5/	123.8

1/ The data for 1939 are based on the Biennial Census of Manufactures. Because of different methods of classification they are not strictly comparable with statistics for later years.

2/ Wool content predominantly woolen spun or cotton spun.

3/ Wool content predominantly worsted spun.

4/ Includes melton, mackinaw, snow, and ski-suit cloth, linings, and interlinings and bathrobe flannels.

5/ Not reported separately.

6/ Production of woven felts, not reported in yards. Such production totaled 2.2 million pounds in the July-September period, 1944.

Compiled from Bureau of the Census "Facts for Industry" reports. The figures include production for military and other Government uses, and civilian use.



Production of wool apparel fabrics for military use probably reached a record high in the latter part of 1942 and early months of 1943. At that time when total production was not greatly different from recent quarters more than 60 percent of apparel fabrics produced by mills reporting to the National Association of Wool Manufacturers were for Government use. (A much larger percentage of the raw wool used by mills went into Government fabrics). The percentage for Government use declined rapidly after the first quarter of 1943 and then leveled off at slightly more than 25 percent of total output during the first 9 months of 1944. (See table 8.) While these mills account for only about 60 percent of total United States production of apparel fabrics, the figures probably are fairly representative of the situation for the entire industry. The extent of the decline in Army takings of woolen and worsted fabrics in 1944 was pointed out by the Quartermaster General in a statement published on November 27, 1944. It was indicated that Army acceptance of wool cloth items such melton, flannel, lining cloth, serge and other worsted in the first half of 1944 totaled 30 million linear yards. This was at an annual rate of only 60 million yards compared with deliveries of such items totaling 172 million yards in 1943 and 155 million yards in 1942. In addition to these cloths, the Army took large quantities of blankets and knitted wool items in each year, and wool fabrics were also purchased by the Navy and other Government Services.

The Army program for the first half of 1945 will require a rapid shift to the production of Government fabrics. It is not possible to say at this time, whether the previous record production of military fabrics will be surpassed as the percentage of woolen output which will be required by the military has not yet been determined.

Table 8.- Percentage of mill production of woven wool apparel fabrics assigned to Government use, 101 reporting mills, United States, 1941-44

Period,	1941	1942	1943	1944
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1st quarter .....	20	35	61	26
2nd quarter .....	24	55	56	26
3rd quarter .....	20	58	44	27
4th quarter .....	29	64	31	
Year .....	24	53	48	

Based on data published by the National Association of Wool Manufacturers. Percentages for periods prior to October 1942 are rough approximations based on reported sales and unfilled orders. Production of civilian and military fabrics was not reported separately during that period.

#### Army Purchase Likely to Increase Use of Domestic Wool

The use of domestic wool is likely to increase during the next several months with the shift from civilian to military production as preference is given to domestic wool in awarding Army contracts. Mills have used foreign wools almost exclusively in civilian fabrics because of the lower prices of foreign wool. Only 261 million pounds (grease basis) of domestic wool were used in the first 10 months of 1944, compared with 573 million pounds of foreign wool. Large requirements for uniform serge and shirting flannel for Army use should provide an outlet for a considerable amount of fine and half-blood domestic wools. Army orders for these two items for the first half of 1945 would require the use of about 150 million pounds, (grease basis) of

60s-64s quality if made entirely of domestic wool. These grades form the greater part of stocks held by the CCC. Cancellation or postponement of civilian deliveries on the other hand, may curtail demand for foreign wool.

The extent to which domestic wool will be used in the new Army orders, however, may depend somewhat on the urgency of requirements and on sorting and processing capacity. Commission combers are reported to be using domestic wool up to their full sorting capacity in some cases. Since mills have been working largely with foreign wool during recent months, stocks of sorted and semi-manufactured wools consist largely of foreign grown wools. As the need for military items is urgent, supplies of foreign wool already in process for civilian fabrics probably will be shifted to Army orders.

Wool Consumption Could be Increased  
If Workers are Available

The effect of the new Army program on total mill consumption of apparel wool during the next several months will depend in large part on mills' success in recruiting additional workers, or in increasing working hours in an effort to speed deliveries of Army fabrics. Consumption undoubtedly could be increased materially from the present level if workers could be obtained, as there is no shortage of raw wool, and machinery is generally employed far below capacity. More than 10 percent of available worsted combing machinery was entirely idle during October (the latest month for which data are available). Only 67 percent of available combs were in operation during the second shift, and only 39 percent operated a third shift during that month. Yet production of worsted yarns was limited by the inability of mills to obtain deliveries of worsted tops.

Mill consumption of wool in the first 10 months of 1944 (the latest period for which data are available) was 4 percent smaller than in the corresponding period of 1943 and this decline has been attributed largely to the difficulty of maintaining an adequate force of sufficiently trained workers, particularly in the early stages of manufacture. The number of workers in the industry dropped from a peak of 192,000 in December 1941 to 146,000 in October 1944, a decline of 24 percent. Part of the decline in number of workers was offset by increasing hours per worker during the early part of this period, but hours per worker appear to have reached the practicable maximum in some stages of production and the decline in number of workers has continued. The number employed in October 1944 was 9 percent smaller than a year earlier.

Total U. S. Stocks of Wool on October 1, 1944  
About Equal to 1943 Stocks

United States stocks of apparel wool in all hands, excepting wool stored in this country for the British Government, totaled about 950 million pounds (grease basis) on October 1, 1944, compared with approximately 1.1 billion pounds on July 1. The decline in stocks during this period was partly seasonal. A further seasonal decline has occurred since October 1 but sufficient data are not available for making later estimates. The October 1 stocks this year were about equal to October 1, 1943 stocks but were more than twice as large as average 1935-39 October 1 stocks of around 400 million pounds. Mill consumption at present, however, is at an annual rate of close to 1 billion pounds (grease basis) compared with 1935-39 average consumption of about 600 million pounds. United States stocks of domestic wool were considerably larger on October 1 this year than a year earlier but stocks of foreign grown



wool in this country were smaller. About two-thirds of the total stocks of apparel wool in the United States on October 1, 1944 were Government owned, or were held for purchase by the CCC under the 1944 purchase program. Stocks of domestic and foreign wool owned by manufacturers and topmakers on October 1 were 22 million pounds smaller than July 1 stocks and were 80 million pounds smaller than on October 1, 1943.

Table 9.- Apparel wool, grease basis; Stocks in all hands in the United States, October 1, 1944 <sup>1/</sup>

Item	Stocks
	Million pounds
Wool owned by mills and dealers and domestic wool held by dealers on consignment:	
Domestic wool .....	120
Foreign wool .....	220
Domestic wool owned by the CCC and shorn and unshorn wool still on farms and ranches <sup>2/</sup> .....	420
Foreign wool owned by the DSC .....	190
TOTAL .....	950

<sup>1/</sup> Excludes foreign wool stored in the United States for the British Government.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes wool to be obtained from slaughtered sheep and lambs during the remainder of the 1944 season.

Based on data from the Bureau of the Census. Defense supplies Corporation and Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Table 10.- Stocks of apparel and carpet wool held by dealers and manufacturers, grease basis, United States, October 1, 1944, with comparisons

		Apparel wool					
		Domestic		Foreign			
		:Manufac-:		:Manufac-:			
Year and date		Dealers	turers	Dealers	turers	Total	Carpet
		1/		1/			wool
		1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
		<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
End of third quarter:							
1937 (Sept. 25)	.....	139,085	85,303	16,585	33,136	274,109	50,174
1938 (Sept. 24)	.....	181,847	104,559	12,939	19,367	318,712	33,123
1939 (Sept. 30)	.....	75,245	125,084	9,610	27,027	236,966	41,063
1940 (Sept. 28)	.....	91,110	108,031	13,671	30,640	243,452	47,161
1941 (Sept. 27)	.....	104,096	103,232	27,026	113,974	348,328	72,308
1942 (Oct. 3)	.....	122,202	165,327	2/79,368	2/200,206	2/567,103	3/37,975
		:					

- Continued

Table 10.- Stocks of apparel and carpet wool held by dealers and manufacturers, grease basis, United States, October 1, 1944, with comparisons --Continued

	Apparel wool						
	Domestic			Foreign			
	Manufac-			Manufac-			
Year and date	Dealers	turers	Dealers	turers	Total	Carpet	
	1/		1/			wool	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	
By quarters:							
1943							
March 27 .....	38,674	83,920	31,802	102,902	257,298	66,358	
June 26 .....	215,955	103,579	39,044	154,473	513,041	53,308	
Sept. 25 .....	4/208,864	92,152	71,969	170,574	4/543,559	48,309	
1944							
Jan. 1 .....	4/223,459	61,063	77,391	128,255	4/490,168	42,045	
Apr. 1 .....	4/212,479	48,697	66,962	142,972	4/469,110	40,138	
July 1 .....	4/341,458	50,982	73,464	152,549	4/618,453	33,481	
Sept. 30 .....	4/406,056	43,163	81,310	138,767	4/669,296	48,904	

Compiled from stocks reports of the Bureau of the Census.

1/ Includes topmakers.

2/ Includes some fine carpet wool.

3/ Coarse carpet wool.

4/ Includes stocks owned by the CCC. On October 1, 1944, stocks owned by the CCC totaled approximately 330 million pounds, grease basis, compared with 230 million on July 1, and 184 million on April 1. In addition to these stocks the stocks reported by dealers include an unknown quantity of wool held for appraisal, or already appraised and awaiting purchase by the CCC.



## Prices, per pound of wool and other textile fibers, United States, 1941-44

Item	Annual average							
	1943				1944			
	1941	1942	1943	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Prices received by farmers, grease basis, 15th of month..	35.5	40.1	41.6	40.3	41.0	40.3	40.4	
Boston market:								
Territory, scoured basis								
64s, 70s, 80s staple combing..	108.8	119.1	117.8	117.0	119.0	119.0	119.0	
56s combing .....	91.2	102.6	104.2	104.5	104.5	104.5	104.5	
Bright fleece, greasy								
64s, 70s, 80s delaine.....	43.1	47.2	46.9	47.0	47.0	47.0	47.0	
56s combing .....	46.8	51.8	54.2	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	
Foreign wool, in bond:								
Scoured basis 1/								
Australian 64s, 70s good top- making 2/ .....	69.5	75.4	75.9	74.5	70.8	72.0	73.4	
Cape, short combing .....	68.1	72.8	72.5	72.5	72.5	72.5	72.5	
Grease basis								
Montevideo 60-64s .....	40.4	43.0	41.4	41.5	38.4	38.2	39.2	
Montevideo 1s (56s) .....	38.6	42.5	41.4	41.5	40.1	39.1	40.5	
Other textile fibers:								
Cotton, 15/16-inch Middling								
3/ .....	13.9	19.3	20.6	19.7	21.4	21.6	21.4	
Rayon staple fiber 4/ .....								
Viscose 1-1/2 denier .....	25.0	25.0	24.4	24.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	
Acetate 5 denier .....	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0	40.0	38.0	

Domestic wool prices are from the War Food Administration; foreign wool prices are from the Boston Commercial Bulletin, except as otherwise noted, and are before payment of duty.

1/ New series. These types are believed to be more representative of the foreign wool now being purchased by U. S. buyers than the types previously quoted.

2/ Quotations from the W. F. A. 3/ Average at 10 marks. 4/ F.o.b. producing plants, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Wool: Mill consumption in the United States, 1942-44

Item	Total		Weekly average					
	1942	1943	Jan - Oct		Oct.	Sept.	Oct.	
			1943	1944	1943 1/	1944 1/	1944 2	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	
Grease basis 3/:								
Apparel wool								
Domestic .....	540,748	430,456	8,891	6,067	6,287	6,384	6,698	
Foreign .....	536,536	630,968	11,970	13,321	12,983	12,108	13,311	
Total .....	1,077,284	1,061,424	20,861	19,388	19,270	18,492	20,009	
Carpet wool .....	60,840	43,732	820	1,140	911	1,031	1,257	
Scoured basis:								
Apparel wool								
Domestic .....	244,504	203,580	4,200	2,853	2,908	2,961	3,261	
Foreign .....	326,976	388,284	7,377	8,245	7,947	7,473	8,169	
Total .....	571,480	591,864	11,577	11,098	10,855	10,434	11,430	
Carpet wool .....	43,940	32,240	608	852	674	759	925	

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

1/ 5-week period. 2/ 4-week period. 3/ Total of shorn and pulled wool.

Pulled wool is, in condition received from pullers and is partly washed.

Livestock: Marketings and slaughter statistics, by species,  
November 1944, with comparisons

Item	Unit	January - October			1943			1944	
		1942	1943	1944	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.		
<b>Cattle and calves</b>									
Number slaughtered under									
Federal inspection:									
Steers .....	Thous.	5,260	4,746	5,102	477	458	366		
Cows and heifers .....	"	4,682	4,106	5,671	764	917	896		
All cattle .....	"	10,347	9,237	11,350	1,290	1,451	1,336		
Percentage cows and heifers are of total									
cattle .....	Pct.	45.2	44.4	50.0	59.3	63.2	67.1		
Calves .....	Thous.	4,783	4,056	6,227	625	920	874		
Average live weight:									
Cattle .....	Lb.	955	961	930	920	882	888		
Calves .....	"	206	202	213	237	262	245		
Total dressed weight:									
Cattle .....	Mil.lb.	5,367	4,789	5,498	595	632	580		
Calves .....	"	551	456	730	81	130	115		
Shipments of feeder cattle and calves to eight Corn Belt States 1/ .....	Thous.	1,950	1,818	1,733	382	525	376		
<b>Hogs</b>									
Number slaughtered under									
Federal inspection:.....	"	42,096	48,893	58,096	6,972	4,223	5,258		
Average live weight .....	Lb.	245	258	245	238	238	238		
Percentage packing sows are of all purchases at									
seven markets .....	Pct.	14	16	11	10	14	9		
Total production under									
Federal inspection:									
Pork .....	Mil.lb.	5,887	7,320	7,942	954	587	729		
Lard 2/ .....	"	1,361	1,609	2,042	211	120	153		
Average yield per hog:									
Pork .....	Lb.	140.2	150.1	137.0	137.1	139.3	138.9		
Lard 2/ .....	"	32.4	33.0	35.2	30.3	28.5	29.2		
Storage stocks end of									
month:									
Pork .....	Mil.lb.	---	---	---	383	297	3/316		
Lard 2/.....	"	---	---	---	131	118	3/90		
<b>Sheep and Lambs</b>									
Number slaughtered under									
Federal inspection .....	Thous.	17,324	18,735	17,929	2,370	2,238	2,013		
Average live weight .....	Lb.	89	91	89	90	89	91		
Total dressed weight .....	Mil. lb.	710	770	725	94	90	81		
Feeder sheep and lamb									
shipments to 8 Corn Belt									
States 1/ .....	Thous.	3,313	3,541	2,768	588	919	420		
Total dressed weight of									
livestock slaughtered									
under Federal inspection:	Mil. lb.	14,381	15,542	17,691	2,014	1,605	1,715		

1/ Total shipments direct and from public stockyards to Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Nebraska. 2/ Including rendered pork fat. 3/ Preliminary: 1944 data for pork stocks not entirely comparable with earlier figures.



Livestock prices per 100 pounds (except where noted), by species,  
November 1944, with comparisons

Item	1943	November			1944		
	annual	1932-41:	1942	1943	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
	average	average					
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
<u>Cattle and calves</u>							
Beef steers sold out of							
first hands at Chicago:							
Choice and Prime.....	16.23	10.89	16.77	16.04	17.76	17.90	17.95
Good .....	15.34	9.36	15.40	14.98	16.26	16.56	16.27
Medium .....	14.01	7.69	13.44	12.88	13.40	13.61	13.56
Common .....	11.66	6.22	10.67	10.64	10.86	10.48	10.40
All grades .....	15.30	9.28	15.30	15.10	15.78	15.95	15.78
Good grade cows at Chicago..	12.98	5.86	12.56	11.77	13.41	13.62	13.72
Vealers: Good and Choice							
at Chicago .....	15.18	8.75	14.50	14.36	15.26	15.38	15.02
Stocker and feeder steers							
at Kansas City .....	12.35	6.61	12.62	10.97	11.34	11.50	11.96
Average price paid by							
packers:							
All cattle .....	12.22	6.07	10.84	10.31	10.16	9.63	9.59
Steers .....	14.21	1/	13.73	13.21	12.89	12.63	12.73
Calves .....	12.28	6.52	11.66	10.65	11.30	10.96	10.88
<u>Hogs</u>							
Average market price at							
Chicago:							
Barrows and gilts .....	14.49	1/	13.94	13.74	14.69	14.62	14.18
Sows .....	13.71	1/	14.03	13.17	14.00	13.95	13.90
All purchases .....	14.31	7.04	13.96	13.64	14.42	14.49	14.14
Average price paid by							
packers .....	14.11	6.93	13.66	13.40	14.22	14.34	14.01
Average price No. 3 Yellow							
corn at Chicago 2/ .....	104.6	60.4	80.53/106.53/	115.5	114.2	109.3	
Hog-corn price ratio at							
Chicago 4/ .....	13.7	12.2	17.3	12.8	12.5	12.7	12.9
<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>							
Wooled lambs, Good and							
Choice grade at Chicago ..	---	8.66	14.74	13.73	14.34	14.41	14.44
Feeding lambs, Good and							
Choice grade at Omaha ....	---	3.68	12.35	11.35	12.43	12.36	12.49
Ewes, Good and Choice grade:							
at Chicago .....	---	7.58	6.12	5.85	5.38	5.83	5.86
Average price paid by pack-							
ers for sheep and lambs ..	12.20	7.74	11.64	10.45	11.25	10.48	10.19
Index retail meat prices 5/:	115.0	79.6	113.4	112.1	110.9	111.3	111.5
Index income of industrial							
workers 6/ .....	239	82	213	249	241	240	---

1/ Not available. 2/ Cents per bushel. 3/ Ceiling price.

4/ Number of bushels of corn equivalent in value of 100 pounds of live hogs.

5/ Bureau of Labor Statistics, converted to 1924-29 base.

6/ Bureau of Agricultural Economics 1924-29 = 100.



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The Cotton Situation	(Monthly)
The Dairy Situation	(Monthly)
The Demand and Price Situation	(Monthly)
The Farm Income Situation	(Monthly)
The Fats and Oils Situation	(Monthly)
The Feed Situation	(Monthly)
The Fruit Situation	(Quarterly)
The Livestock and Wool Situation	(Monthly)
The Marketing and Transportation Situation	(Monthly)
The National Food Situation	(Monthly)
The Poultry and Egg Situation	(Monthly)
The Tobacco Situation	(Quarterly)
The Vegetable Situation	(Quarterly)
The Wheat Situation	(Bi-monthly, except monthly for July and August)
The World Sugar Situation	(Annually)

The above reports are available free upon request. Address requests to:

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